

PREVENTION AND RESTORATIVE PROGRAMS

Wisconsin has several state and federally funded programs that provide preventive dental services.

- **Community Water Fluoridation** is in effect in 283 systems. The program benefits 90% of the people on public water systems, but only 63% of the general population. It is funded in part from the federal Prevention Block Grant and in part from local taxes.
- **School-based Fluoride Mouth Rinse Program** provides school-based fluoride mouthrinsing programs to an estimated 10,023 children. It is funded by a state grant of \$25,000 GPR. In FY 01, requests for funding exceeded available funds.
- The **Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grant** provides \$12,000 for school-based sealants.
- The **GuardCare** program provides medical clinical services for adults and children and dental clinical services for children for two weeks each year in underserved areas of the state. Members of the Wisconsin Army National Guard and other volunteers provide clinical services.
- The **Dietary Fluoride Supplement Program** provides supplements to an estimated 2,245 children. The program is funded by \$25,000 GPR through a grant program.
- **Healthy Smiles for Wisconsin (Seal a Smile)** screened 2,057 children in FY 01 and provided dental sealants to 1,548 of them. The program is funded by \$60,000 GPR in grants available to communities. The Department received requests in excess of \$100,000 for this program.
- **Spit Tobacco Programs** provided a curriculum on tobacco avoidance to approximately 200 schools, for the use of a target population of 80,000 fifth graders. The program was funded by a grant from the Wisconsin Tobacco Control Board and is now funded through DHFS.
- **Lift the Lip program** trained medical and dental providers to screen the oral health of children under age 3, provide and/or refer children for age-appropriate fluoride treatment and provide anticipatory guidance to parents and guardians.
- **Medical Assistance** will cover prescriptions for fluoride drops or tablets for children whose water systems are not fluoridated. This can be supplied in a well-baby checkup.
- The federal and state government funds 14 **Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)**, which provide health and, in some cases, dental services to low-income populations. The state allocates \$3 million GPR annually to the FQHCs plus provides MA reimbursement. At least seven of these community health care centers use some of their state allocation to fund a dental program. Some of these clinics have six months waiting lists for dental services.

- The state budget allocated \$50,000 for the new clinic in Outagamie County. The goal of the **Tri-County Community Dental Clinic** is to provide emergency care followed by restorative and preventive for low-income uninsured, Medical Assistance eligible populations in Calumet, Outagamie, and Winnebago Counties.
- The 2001-03 budget provided \$912,500 GPR in FY 02 and \$587,600 GPR in FY 03 to fund **dental clinics in Ladysmith and Menomonie**, two underserved areas of the state. These clinics will provide regular and preventive dental care to low income populations. In Ladysmith, the FQHC, which is administered by Marshfield Clinic, purchased one of two private clinics in the area and will be developing an integrated dental-primary care prevention model for dental service delivery.
- The Department provides \$2.8 million GPR to **Marquette University School of Dentistry** to provide clinic services and student clinical practicums to increase access to dental services for underserved populations. The grant gives dental students treatment experience with traditionally underserved populations and MA recipients.
- The Department provides \$40,000 GPR annually to the Wisconsin Dental Association to administer the **Donated Dental Services Program**, under which volunteer dentists provide dental care to low-income individuals at no charge. The funding supports program expenses.
- The Department provides \$60,500 GPR annually to the **Marquette School of Dentistry Johnston Community Health Center Pediatric Dentistry Program**. This program helps support clinical dental services for children at the Johnston Community Health Center and also provides dental sealants to underserved children in elementary schools in Milwaukee. The primary target population for these funds is Hispanic children.
- **Regional Oral Health Consultants** are responsible for oral health prevention program development in five DPH Public Health regions and local communities. They provide education and technical assistance to community agencies, medical providers and local public health departments.
- **Wisconsin Oral Health Data Collection Plan**, monitors oral health status by Department of Health and Family Services Region and Statewide. Surveys should be repeated every three to five years.
- **Healthy Smiles for Head Start**, a survey of 456 children (aged 3-6 years) enrolled in Head Start, was conducted in 2003 to determine oral health status.
- **Make Your Smile Count Survey**, of children enrolled in third grade, assess the need for oral health treatment among children in Wisconsin. The survey screened 3,307 third grade children in 2001 and will be repeated in 2006.